

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☒
no ☐

Property Name: Holly Hill (Mt. Repose Farm) Inventory Number: BA-187

Address: 13801 York Road (MD 45) City: Cockeysville Zip Code: 21030-1825

County: Baltimore USGS Topographic Map: Hereford

Owner: Broadmead, Inc.

Tax Parcel Number: 45 Tax Map Number: 42 Tax Account ID Number: 1900014029

York Road @ Broadmead Retirement Community

Project: Entrance Agency: State Highway Administration (SHA)

Site visit by MHT Staff: ☒ No ☐ yes Name: _____ Date: _____

Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility **not** recommended ☐

Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Is the property located within a historic district? ☒ no ☐ yes Name of district: _____

Is district listed? ☐ No ☐ Yes Determined eligible? ☐ no ☐ yes District Inventory Number: _____

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project review and compliance files.

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

Since only a one-page form and a capsule summary are on file for this historic resource, this DOE is being provided as a supplement.

Holly Hill, as it is known by locals today, consists primarily of the large, Federal style brick main house. A later, garage/caretaker's residence is located immediately to the rear of it. These two buildings are set amongst the modern retirement community of Broadmead, which includes large brick office buildings and low-lying, attached multiple residences, covered walkways, and associated auxiliary buildings. Two other extant historic buildings include a stone and frame barn, and a stone springhouse are located to the southeast of the main house, but are visually separated by the retirement community buildings.

The main house is a two and one half story Federal style structure, three bays wide and two rooms deep. There is a three-story brick addition on the side façade, as well as a smaller one-story addition perpendicular to the main body of the dwelling. The main portion of the house, main façade, has the entrance in the side façade with decorated surround and transom. The two windows on this story are 12 over 12, with wooden shutters. The second story, main façade, has three symmetrically placed windows, each 8 over 12, double hung, with wooden shutters. There are two large Colonial Revival gable dormers on this façade, each with a series of three double hung windows. There is a hipped roof porch across the first story, supported by turned wooden posts. The brick addition has two windows on each story, all with wooden shutters.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eligibility not recommended <input type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
Comments: _____	

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services <i>Andrew Lewis</i>	Date <i>08/03/01</i>
Reviewer, NR program <i>B. Smith</i>	Date <i>8/7/01</i>

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Continuation Sheet No. 1

The rear of the house is irregular in fenestration, divided into the original section and the addition. The original section is three bays wide, two stories, with two dormers at the roof level. The addition has a door and a window on the first story, and three windows on the second story. Two small gable roofed dormers are present on this façade as well. There is a one-story side addition perpendicular to this addition. This has a gable roof, entry porch, and a rear brick chimney. A brick patio encircled by a solid brick wall is attached to the west wall of the one-story side addition. The brick wall rises approximately seven feet in height.

The house is in good condition and does not appear to be in need of repairs. The house was not open on the days of the field visits, but Broadmead staff members state that the interior has been preserved "as much as possible," and that the house is now used primarily for overnight visitors at Broadmead.

Garage/Caretaker's House (Contributing)

The garage/caretaker's house is constructed of stone and concrete sections, with a frame upper section. The building is roughly rectangular in plan and consists of a variety of sections. One section has a gambrel roof clad in asphalt shingles, with a number of modern window and door openings. The end façade appears to have once been the entry to the garage, but this has been converted to residential use. The other section of the building is a two-story block, two rooms wide and deep, with a gable roof. This section of the building also appears to be for residential use for apartments. The lower level is concrete block while the upper level has aluminum siding. Modern windows and doors decorate the façade on both the first and second stories.

Barn (Contributing)

There is a rectangular plan bank barn on the property, with an early 20th century silo. The barn is constructed of a roughly laid stone foundation and lower level, and vertical board upper levels. These upper levels may be board and batten siding. The barn has a series of symmetrical louvered openings on all facades. The roof is clad in standing seam metal, and there is a hipped roof cupola centered on the roof.

Springhouse (Contributing)

The small stone springhouse has a one-story with a square plan, with single openings on all four facades. The lower half of the building is below grade. The gable roof is clad in asphalt shingles.

Historic Context

Although lands in the Cockeysville area were patented beginning in the seventeenth century, the lack of decent roads initially prevented growth and development. The few byways that did exist were based on Indian trails with no bridges in place to cross watercourses. During the eighteenth century, the number of highways grew as more settlers entered the area. By the 1740s, so-called "commercial" thoroughfares began being constructed to move farm produce, mill products, lime and iron castings to the port city of Baltimore. Three different roads led to York, Pennsylvania in an effort to tap the agrarian and industrial riches of Central Pennsylvania and the Susquehanna Valley. The Revolutionary War illustrated to county leaders the need for an organized system of improved roads. In 1785, petitions for better roads inundated the Maryland legislature. Although a public turnpike movement began, it failed after a short time due to road construction costs and maintenance expenses.

The incorporation of for-profit private turnpike companies was the next progressive step in highway development. In 1804, the York Turnpike Company was one of the first three companies incorporated by the Maryland Legislature. Among the liberal elements found in the corporate charter was a monopoly on the route, the right to construct the turnpike on existing highways, and the right of eminent domain to ensure the most expeditious and inexpensive construction plan. The York Turnpike Company was completed and opened for business in 1810. In order to collect tolls, company management placed tollgates at strategic locations along the roadway to garner maximum income from those entering the turnpike on feeder roads. The company erected a tollhouse just north of its intersection with Thornton Mill Road in the Cockeysville/Hunt Valley area. The tollhouse is still extant at this location at 13822 York Road.

As the York Turnpike became a commonplace method of travel and conducting commerce, industries developed along its route. Present before even the turnpike's arrival were limekilns, iron ore beds, and marble deposits, but the exploitation of these natural resources increased after the York Turnpike opened. A gristmill and a distillery, owned by the Webster family in

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Continuation Sheet No. 2

the 1850s and powered by the fast-running waters of Western Run, stood at the bottom of Fifteen-Mile Hill, just south of the tollhouse. The gristmill was located on the west side of the turnpike bridge and the distillery on the east side. The Webster family also owned this property, Holly Hill (also called Mount Repose), located within the Broadmead Community across from the tollhouse on York Road. Reportedly, a section of the Holly Hill house dates to 1712, with an appendage added in 1749. Early owners of this dwelling include Abraham Johnson and Abraham Green. However, this seems like too early a date, and only small frame or log homes are found on the parcels that compose Mount Repose in the 1798 tax tables. Joseph Thornburg acquired a number of land tracts between 1801 and 1813, including Hall's Mill (erected circa 1786) and the Jonathan Wright Mill (built circa 1804). Wright's Mill became Thornton's Mill, which was not razed until 1902. In addition to being a miller, Thornburg was reportedly also an investor in the Baltimore and York Town Turnpike Road and involved in its management.

After Thornburg's death, sometime between 1818 and 1823, his executors sold Mount Repose Farm, consisting of 434 acres, to John Skinner Webster. In 1834, Webster died and his executors sold Mount Repose and the gristmills to his widow, Elizabeth Webster. In 1850, after James Sidney completed the surveys for his map of Baltimore County, Mrs. Webster sold the former Thornton Mill to T.H. Matthews. Mrs. Webster continued residing at Mount Repose until her death in 1863. Three years later, presumably her son, Henry Webster, advertised the farm for sale. Evidently another member of the Webster family purchased the farm, for William Webster's name is associated with it in the 1877 atlas. Subsequently, William's widow, Margaret J.H. Webster lost the farm by defaulting on a mortgage and John Crowther, Jr. purchased the property. In 1890, it was advertised for sale as being "one of the handsomest Country Seats in Baltimore County...", complete with "[t]enement house, barn, stables, dairy, ice house, and all other necessary outbuildings". In 1904, Crowther sold the estate to Alfred W. Pleasants. Alfred's widow, Louisa Carroll Pleasants, called the estate Greta Hall when she conveyed it to William H. Pearce, a copper manufacturer, in 1933. Pearce's widow sold the property she and her husband called Western Run Farm to J. Wesley Edel in 1944. Ten years later, Harry A. Dundore, a local manufacturer in Sparks, purchased the farm. Today, this property is owned by the Broadmead Life Care Community, a senior care center established on 84 acres of the Mount Repose farm in 1979 by the Baltimore Monthly Meeting of Friends, Stony Run, a local Quaker meeting. Broadmead has retained the mansion, springhouse, barn and other buildings erected during the farm's history.

Statement of Significance

The property is significant under Criterion A for its historic association with important regional events: nineteenth-century land transportation and milling in north-central Baltimore County. Joseph Thornburg was active player in the construction of the Baltimore and York Town Turnpike Road. Opened in 1810, this was the only turnpike in this part of the county. Thornburg assembled a number of tracts between 1801 and 1813; he acquired both Hall's Mill (built c. 1786), and the Jonathan Wright Mill (c. 1804); the later mill became Thornton Mill and stood until 1902. The Holly Hill main house stands as a good example of the historic prominence of agriculture and water-powered industries in the area. The Holly Hill House is notable for its association with milling on Western Run, an important economic pursuit in central Baltimore County. The property is also a vernacular representation of the Federal style in the Cockeysville area, with side additions and a later three-bay front porch and two large dormers of the Colonial Revival period. The addition of the porch and dormers is typical of the progressive "updating" of houses as styles and space requirements changed over time. The house and the outbuildings together demonstrate the development of a farm and thus are also eligible under Criterion C. The suggested period of significance for Holly Hill is 1801-1951.

The suggested boundary for Holly Hill is confined to the main house, caretaker's house, barn, springhouse, stable and sheds, a total of approximate 4.5 acres. The parcel is contained within Baltimore County Tax Parcel 45/Map 42 (Acct. No. 1900014029), at 13801 York Road, Cockeysville, Maryland, 21030-1825. Although the remainder of the tract (approximately 80 acres) has natural open spaces including woodlands and a park(s), all of the remaining tract is excluded from the nominated boundary because it also contains modern buildings, fencing, walkways, landscaping, etc. that are out of character with the historic period of the Holly Hill house.

Selected Bibliography

Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. A History of Baltimore County, Friends of the Towson Library, Incorporated, Towson, Maryland, 1979
Hollifield, William. Difficulties Made Easy: History of the Turnpikes of Baltimore City and County. Baltimore County Historical Society, Cockeysville, Maryland, 1978

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Continuation Sheet No. 3

Hopkins, Griffith Morgan. 1877 Atlas of Baltimore County, G.M. Hopkins, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Maryland Historical Trust. Capsule Summary for BA-187 for Holly Hill (Mt. Repose Farm)

Papenfuse, Edward C. and Joseph M. Coale III. The Hammond-Harwood House Atlas of Historical Maps of Maryland, 1608-1908, Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, Maryland 1982.

Sidney, James C. 1850 Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland. James M. Stephens, Baltimore, Maryland.

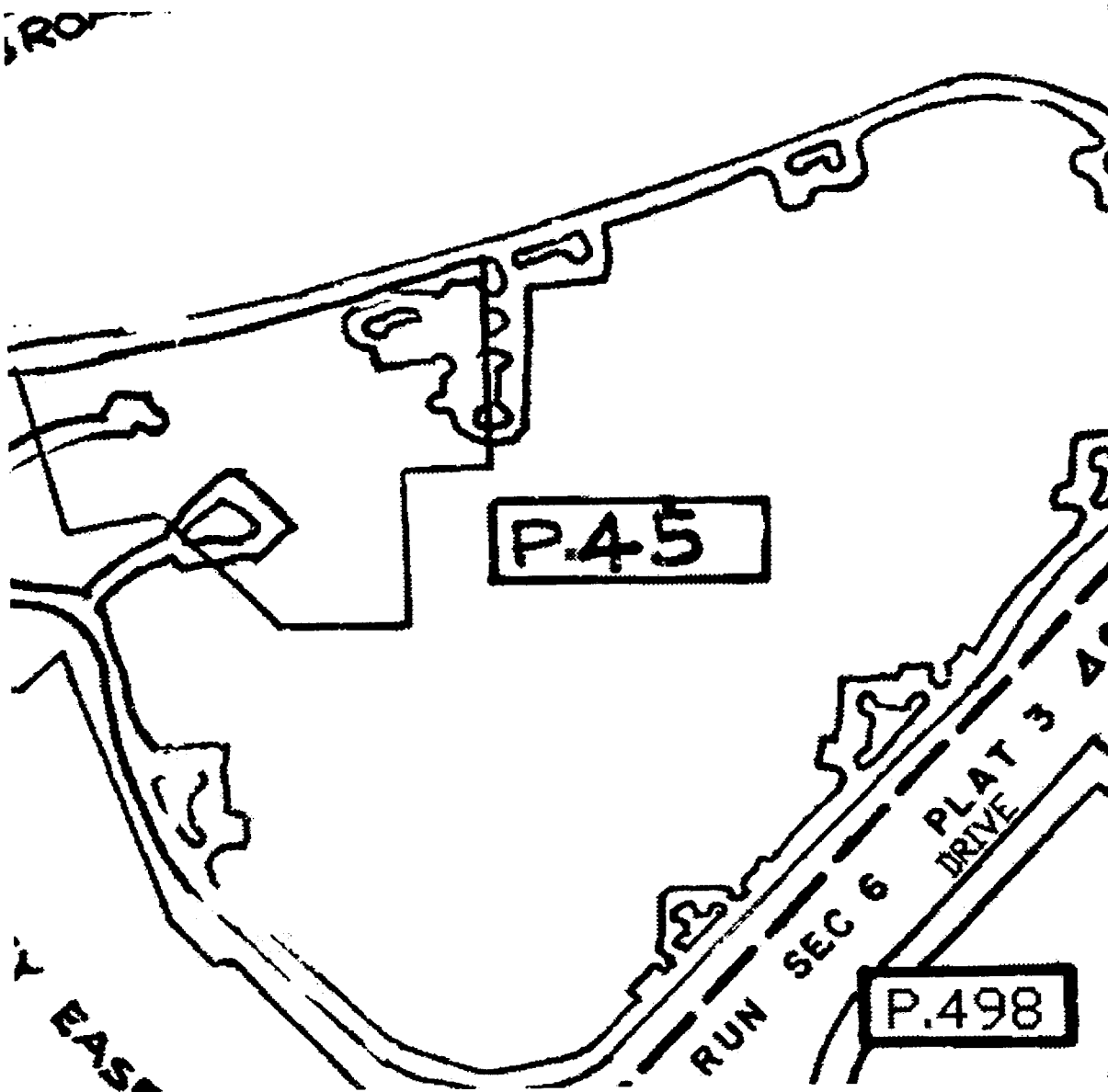
Prepared by: Lauren Archibald, Paul Schopp
and Anne Bruder

Date Prepared: July 2, 2001

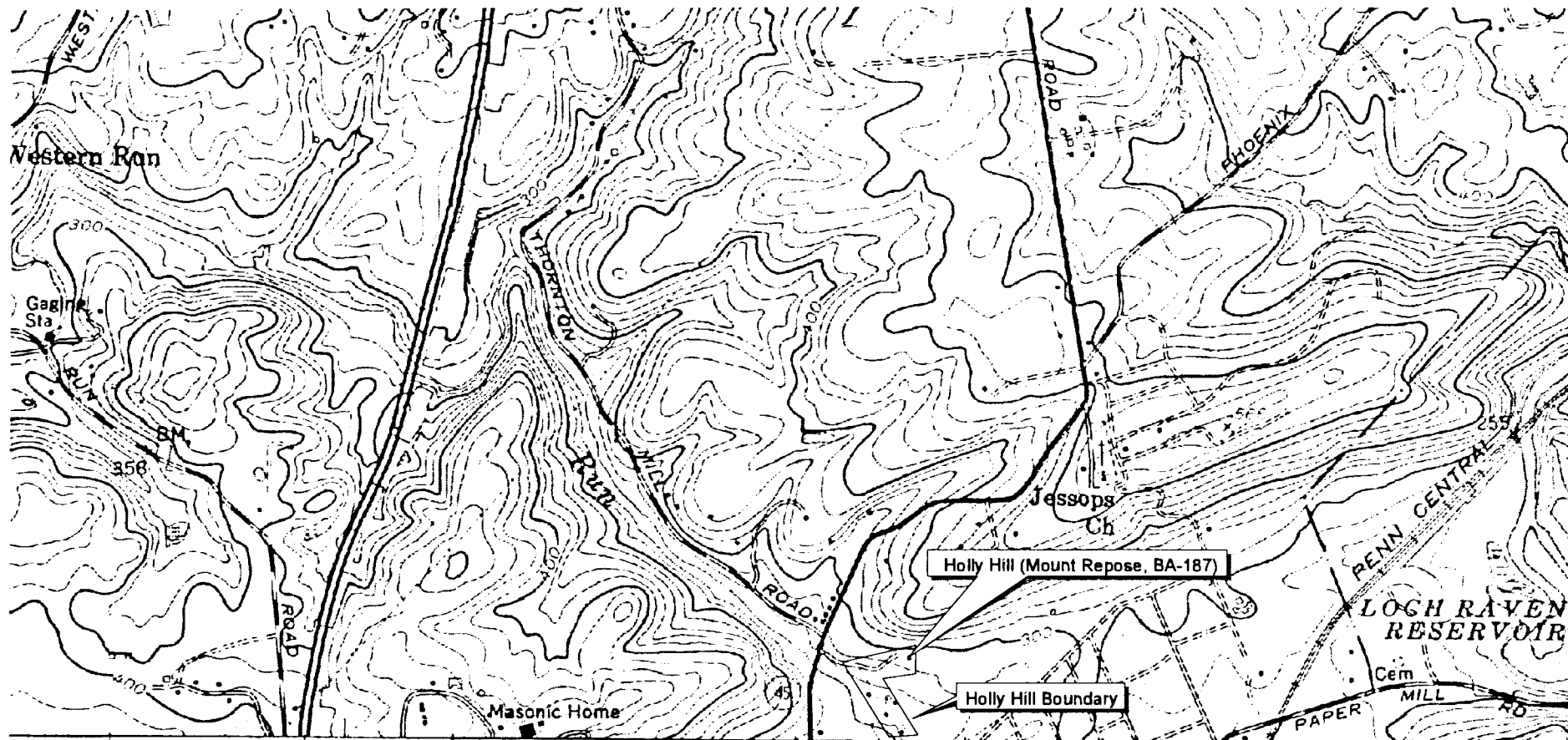
BA-187

**Real Property
Information****Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation
Real Property System**[\[Go Back\]](#)

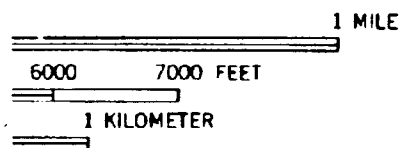
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[\[Zoom In\]](#)

Property maps provided courtesy of the Maryland Department of Planning © 2000.
For more information on electronic mapping applications, visit the Maryland Department of Planning web site at
www.mdp.state.md.us.



LTIMORE BELTWAY 5.5 MI.
TIMORE (CITY HALL) 17 MI.

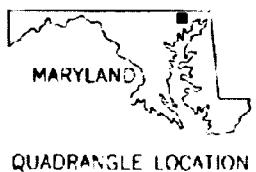


COCKEYSVILLE 1.3 MI.
TOWSON (COURTHOUSE) 7.4 MI.

INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1975
COCKEYSVILLE 1.6 MI.

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt - - - - -
U. S. Route (dashed line with cross-ticks) State Route (solid line with circles)



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

HEREFORD, MD.

N 3930—W 7637.5/7.5

1958

PHOTOREVISED 1974
AMS 5663 II SW—SERIES V833

DARDS

12092

ABLE ON REQUEST

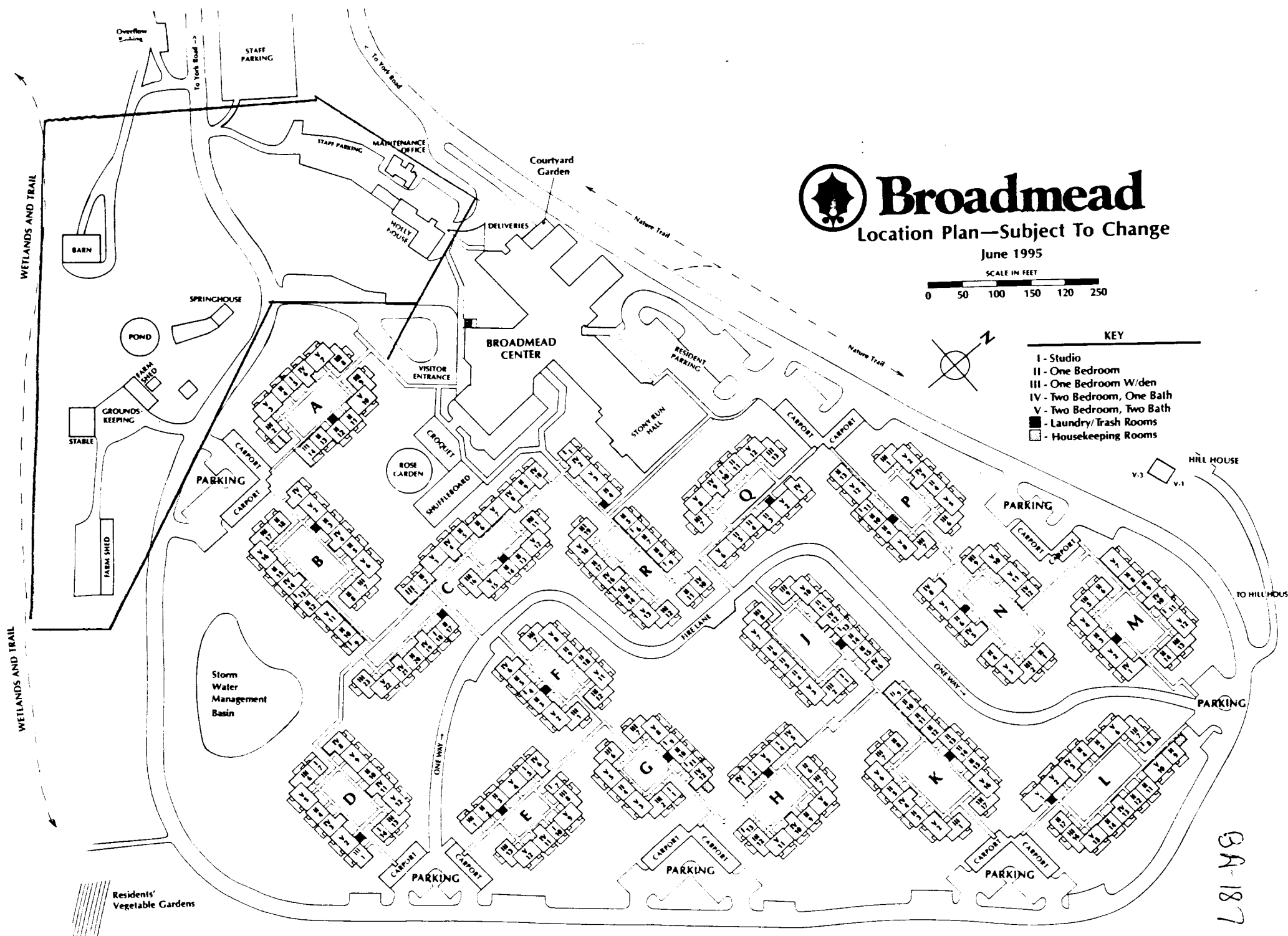
4375000m N.

39°30'

76°37'30"

(TOWSON)
5662 I NE

BA-187

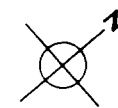


Broadmead

Location Plan—Subject To Change

June 1995

SCALE IN FEET
0 50 100 150 200 250



KEY

- I - Studio
- II - One Bedroom
- III - One Bedroom W/den
- IV - Two Bedroom, One Bath
- V - Two Bedroom, Two Bath
- - Laundry/Trash Rooms
- - Housekeeping Rooms

GA-187



BA-187

1 of 6

HOLLY HILL (MT. REPOSE)

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

LAUREN ARCHIBALD

JANUARY 1 2001

NEGATIVES at MD-STATE

JANUARY 01 <NO. 59>B66
457 51** N N N N *12 254
©(628)Z 00 N N N N *12 254

View NORTH, showing front facade of building



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2 of 6

HOLLY HILL (MT. REPOSE)

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

LAUREN ARLHIBARD

JANUARY 1, 2001

NEGATIVES AT MD-SHPD

VIEW EAST, SHOWING BARN + SILO

JANUARY 01<NO. 2A>003
467 51** N N 2 NN 2(039) ©



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TOLEY HILL (MT. REPOSE)

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

L. P. URBAN ARCHIBALD

APRIL 2001

NEARBY IN MD - 5-12

VIEW - Rear of main building,

looking southwest



DO NOT
ONE WAY
ENTER

BA-187

4 of 6

HOLLY HILL (AUT. REPOSE)

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

LAUREN ARCHIBALD

APRIL 2001

NEGATIVES AT MD-54PS

VIEW OF CARETAKER'S house/garage,
looking Northwest.



BA-187

Fig 6

HOLLY HILL (MT. REPOSE)

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

LAUREN ARCHIBALD

APRIL 2001

NEGATIVE 2 MD-341

View of Springhouse, looking
South east. Note Modern building
in background and to right of
Springhouse



BA - 187

696

HOLLY HILL (MT. REPOSE)

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

LAUREN ARCHIBALD

APRIL 2001

NEGATIVES TO FILE

OVERVIEW of Broadhead Community
showing Springfield in foreground,
Holly Hill house in rear/left, and
modern buildings in rear/left & right.
Barr is

1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Baltimore TOWN Cockeysville VICINITY Dist. VIII STREET NO. Western Run, York Rd.		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY BA- 180 /87	
ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE PRESENT OWNER PRESENT USE WALL CONSTRUCTION NO. OF STORIES		2. NAME Holly Hill (Mt. Repose Farm) DATE OR PERIOD early 1700's STYLE ARCHITECT BUILDER	
		3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION		OPEN TO PUBLIC	
<p>Large stone - plastered house, dormer windows, several additions believed built between 1712 and 1749. Early owners were Abraham Johnson and Abraham Green. In 1700's property contained three large tracks; by 1835 reduced to 435 acres and a mill.</p> <p>Present owners, Mr. & Mrs. Harry A. Dundore.</p> <p>(second HABS report) E. Frances Offutt HABS COMMITTEE OF BALTIMORE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY March 20, 1968</p>			
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered		Interior Exterior	
6. LOCATION MAP (<i>Plan Optional</i>)		7. PHOTOGRAPH	
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (<i>Author, Title, Pages</i>) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER DATE OF RECORD	